

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is a method for estimating a NO_x occlusion amount of a NO_x occlusion catalyst interposed in an exhaust passage in an engine, which is constituted such that a NO_x occlusion amount is estimated by using a polynomial reflected with NO_x occlusion characteristics of a NO_x occlusion catalyst and each coefficient of the polynomial is sequentially corrected on the basis of NO_x purification rates actually measured.